

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 AF-06 OPIC-03

EURE-00 /063 W

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P 251505Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3911

INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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USIA FOR IEU/MCLAUGHLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJECT: INFLAMMATORY PRESS RELEASE

SUMMARY: LISBON MEDIA GAVE HEAVY PLAY TO A WEEKEND RELEASE BY THE MOVEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST LEFT (M.E.S.) WHICH INCLUDED BOGUS STORY THAT AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI HAD MET WITH PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES AND SUDDENLY DEPARTED FOR THE UNITED STATES. THE M.E.S. RELEASE CARRIED HEAVY OVERTONES OF POSSIBLE U.S. INTERFERENCE IN PORTUGUESE INTERNAL AFFAIRS. M.E.S. COMMUNIQUE WAS LEAD ITEM ON PRIME-TIME EMISSORA NACIONAL RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS. END SUMMARY.

1. DIARIO DE NOTICIAS, AUG. 25, 1975, HEADLINE ON RELEASE

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TEXT IS "M.E.S. (MOVEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST LEFT) ASKS AND

COMMENTS: IN THE HOUR OF TRUTH." ARTICLE TEXT:

IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS, THE SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE M.E.S. ISSUED AN IMPORTANT COMMUNIQUE WHICH WE TRANSCRIBE IN ITS ENTIRETY:

ON THE 24TH, IN THE EARLY MORNING, THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC ISSUED A STATEMENT.

THIS STATEMENT, WRITTEN IN AN AMBIGUOUS STYLE, WAS DECIDED UPON BY THE REVOLUTIONARY AND PROGRESSIVE OFFICERS. IN THE MORNING, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, COSTA GOMES, RECEIVED THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, THE RENOWNED CARLUCCI.

THIS AMBASSADOR OF IMPERIALISM WENT FROM THIS MEETING DIRECTLY TO THE AIRPORT WHERE HE TOOK A PLANE, PRESUMABLY FOR THE UNITED STATES.

AT 8:00 P.M. A COMMUNIQUE OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC WAS READ ON THE RADIO CANCELING THE ONE ISSUED EARLY IN THE MORNING.

THE M.E.S. ASKS:

- WHY DID CARLUCCI GO TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC?
- WHAT BLACKMAIL IS IMPERIALISM SETTING UP?
- WHAT DIVERSIONARY MANEUVERS ARE TAKING PLACE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF POWER?
- WHY DID THE PRESIDENCY SUSPEND A COMMUNIQUE WHICH IT HAD ISSUED EARLIER?
- WHY HASN'T THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC DISCLOSED UP TO NOW THE COSTA GOMES/CARLUCCI MEETING?

THE REVOLUTION MUST ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

SUPPORTERS OF THE REVOLUTION MUST DRAW THESE CONCLUSIONS: THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY CONSPIRATORS ARE TRYING TO GAIN TIME, TO DIVIDE THE PROGRESSIVISTS, TO LAY GROUNDWORK TO STRIKE BEHIND SCENES SO AS TO GHROW PORTUGAL RAPIDLY IN THE ARMS OF IMPERIALISM AND TO THE MOST MENACING ENEMIES OF THE PORTUGUESE WORKING CLASS..."

2. COMMUNIST-DOMINATED O SECULO OF AUG. 25 CARRIES FRONT-PAGE, ONE-COLUMN HEADLINE, "CARLUCCI MEETS WITH 'THE NINE' AND WITH COSTA GOMES." HEADLINE LEADS TO TWO-PARAGRAPH, SECOND-PAGE ITEM STATING: "WELL-INFORMED SOURCES ASSURE US THAT YESTERDAY U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANK CARLUCCI MET IN THE AFTERNOON WITH ELEMENTS OF THE MILITARY GROUP 'OF THE NINE.' AFTERWARD THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND THEN LEFT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIRECTLY BY AIR FOR THE UNITED STATES. THE M.E.S. COMMUNIQUE REFERS TO THIS ACTIVITY BY FRANK CARLUCCI."

3. COMMENT: THE M.E.S. RELEASE INDICATES HOW SENSITIVE THIS SECTOR IS TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR'S MOVEMENTS AND TO POSSIBLE OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN PORTUGUESE AFFAIRS. IT ALSO SHOWS THAT THE FAR LEFT HAS REACHED A CERTAIN LEVEL OF DESPERATION WHICH MOTIVATED THE DISSEMINATION OF A FALSE NEWS ITEM.

CARLUCCI

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO, US, MES, (CARLUCI, FRANK C)
To: STATE
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